



Convocation

Faculty of Applied Language Studies UMPSA celebrates 6 postgraduates at UMPSA’S 21st Convocation

19 November 2026

PEKAN, 31 October 2026 - The Faculty of Applied Language Studies (FALS), Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah (UMPSA), proudly celebrates the achievements of six postgraduate graduates at the 21st UMPSA Convocation Ceremony (MKK-21), held from 31 October to 3

November 2026.

The graduates received their scrolls during the first session of the ceremony on 31 October 2026, presented by UMPSA Pro-Chancellor, Tan Sri Dato' Sri (Dr.) Abi Musa Asa'ari Mohamed Nor.

This year's celebration marks another significant milestone for the faculty, with six graduates successfully completing their postgraduate studies across three academic programmes.

They comprised three Master of Science in Technology-Integrated Language Studies (MScTILS) graduates, Aisyah Hanim Azman, Farah Shafiqa Rasidi and Nur Maisarah Ismaizam; one Master of Science (MSc) graduate, Wan Alisa Hanis Wan Abdul Halim; and two Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) graduates, Dr. Li Changlin and Dr. Guo Lichao.

Among the highlights of this year's postgraduate achievements was the successful completion of doctoral studies by Dr. Li Changlin and Dr. Guo Lichao within the prescribed period, attaining Graduate on Time (iGOT) status.

This achievement reflects their dedication, perseverance and commitment throughout their research journeys, alongside the guidance and support of their supervisors.

Their research focuses on key areas of applied language studies, particularly language assessment, writing proficiency and strategies for enhancing language learning.

The studies offer valuable insights into improving English language teaching and learning, while contributing to a deeper understanding of learners' writing development.

Dr. Li Changlin undertook a study entitled "A Comparative Study of CEFR and CET4 Writing Assessment in Light of Task Complexity Dimensions", which examines the assessment of writing proficiency through the comparative perspectives of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and the College English Test Band 4 (CET4), with particular emphasis on task complexity.

The research was supervised by Associate Professor Dr. Nik Aloesnita Nik Mohd Alwi as the main supervisor, with Dr. Mohammad Musab Azmat Ali as co-supervisor.

Meanwhile, Dr. Guo Lichao explored the influence of contrastive linguistic knowledge on English as a Foreign Language (EFL) learners' writing proficiency and language enhancement strategies through a study entitled "The Impact of Contrastive Linguistic Knowledge of EFL Learners on Writing Proficiency and Strategies for Language Enhancement".

The study highlights the role of linguistic knowledge in strengthening learners' writing abilities and identifying effective strategies to enhance their language proficiency.

The research was supervised by Associate Professor Dr. Nik Aloesnita Nik Mohd Alwi as the main supervisor, with Dr. Abdullah Adnan Mohamed as co-supervisor.

The Faculty also celebrates the research achievement of its Master of Science graduate, Wan Alisa Hanis Wan Abdul Halim, whose study examines the relationship between writing assessment practices and examiners' cognitive processes.

Entitled “Investigating the Influence of Divergent Rating Scale Designs on Writing Examiners’ Cognitive Processing and CEFR Band Consistency in Malaysian High-Stakes Writing Assessment”, the research investigates how different rating scale designs influence examiners’ decision-making processes and the consistency of CEFR band assignments in high-stakes writing assessments in Malaysia.

The study provides insights into the importance of assessment design in promoting greater consistency and reliability in evaluating candidates’ writing proficiency.

The research was supervised by Associate Professor Dr. Nik Aloesnita Nik Mohd Alwi as the main supervisor, with Dr. Umi Kalsom Masrom as co-supervisor.

The achievements of the six graduates reflect the faculty’s continued commitment to advancing postgraduate education, fostering research excellence and nurturing graduates equipped to contribute to their respective fields.

The faculty extends its heartfelt congratulations to all six graduates on reaching this important academic milestone.

Special appreciation is also extended to the supervisors and academic staff whose dedication, expertise and encouragement have contributed to the graduates’ academic and research accomplishments.

As our graduates move forward into new opportunities and professional endeavours, Faculty of Applied Language Studies wishes them continued success in their respective careers.

May the knowledge, skills and experiences gained throughout their studies empower them to make meaningful contributions to their professions, communities and society.

Once a part of the Faculty of Applied Language Studies, always a part of our success. Congratulations to all our graduates!

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